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08/08/2012 Minutes

VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE Approved MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2012 MEETING

Present: Joey Glushko, Mary Harrison, Elizabeth Karpati, Josh Lobel, Brucie Moulton, Tarajee Pass. Absent: Paul Bayer, Kathleen Bodie, Adam Chapdelaine, Dan Dunn, Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitz-simmons, William Hayner, Jane Howard, John Leone, Cheryl Miller, Angela Olszewski.

- The minutes of the June meeting were accepted as presented; the minutes of the July meeting were accepted with a couple of editorial corrections. It was noted that task group reports should state the name of the person reporting.
- Census survey report: Josh has made it more detailed by adding correlations between answers and demographic information (e.g. what percentage of long-time vs. newer residents were in favor of something). He will add a table of contents and put the report on the Town website. A few copies will be printed for display at Town Day.
- Mary raised the question of what actions have been taken as a result of survey data or comments. E.g., the 2011 survey asked about awareness of transportation options for seniors. Mary has talked to the transportation coordinator at the Senior Center, who said that the use of these options has not been tracked in the past but will be in the future.
- The draft of Mary's article briefly summarizing the 2012 survey results was discussed and some editorial suggestions made.
- Town Day planning: Brucie suggested making a poster showing the accomplishments of Vision 2020. Since our table will be located at the end of the traffic island, where the backs of the rolling boards can be easily seen, those backs can be used for exhibits, with a sign directing people to the other side where our tables will be.
- Solarize Mass will have information at the Sustainable Arlington section of our table.
- Ideas for combatting thefts of plants from the Reservoir garden: Town Day display of plants of the kinds that have been stolen, with "Have you seen me?" signs. Take pictures of the garden right after planting so that gaps resulting from thefts can be easily spotted later.
- Joey will e-mail all task group chairs to arrange a meeting for further Town Day planning.
- Transition topics: Tarajee was introduced as one of the new Diversity co-chairs. Mary and Brucie will meet next week with Cheryl Miller and Angela Olszewski about reviving the Governance group. Brucie will reach out to people who volunteered for Communications.
- Joey has talked to Town officials who were designated as members by Town Meeting when it set up Vision 2020, and Adam Chapdelaine has said he will try to attend. Next year's census survey will focus on economic development (see the report on-line) and thus require the cooperation of Town officials. Joey offered postcards that invite residents to participate in the master planning process, for handing out to committee members and neighbors.
- Task group reports:
- Diversity (Tarajee) has been meeting this summer and is working on generating new ideas.
- Environment (Elizabeth): Spy Pond has not met recently. Reservoir is working on a calendar for sale at Town Day; it had a workday in July and will have another on August 26. Sustainable Arlington (Brucie) is supporting Solarize Mass, a state project to encourage homeowners to lease or purchase rooftop solar systems. Two public information meetings have already been held, and many people have expressed interest. Five open houses where solar panels are already installed are planned between mid-August and September.
- Each task group should review the goals set for it and consider how applicable they are today. Any change in goals would have to be approved by Town Meeting.